

Committee on Homeland Security

Democrats **Bennie G. Thompson, Ranking Member**

www.house.gov/hsc/democrats/

February 10, 2005

Contact: Scott Bates 202.226.2616

THOMPSON ON PREVIOUSLY UNDISCLOSED 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT: **DANGEROUS GAPS CONTINUE IN AIR SECURITY**

Washington, DC — Congressman Bennie G. Thompson, Ranking Member of the Homeland Security Committee, issued the following statement on the 120-page declassified version of the 9/11 Commission report made available today by the National Archives:

"It is disappointing that the President – for more than five months – has kept from the American public the 9/11 Commission's full report detailing the aviation failures that led to the tragic events of September 11, 2001," said Mr. Thompson.

The Commission's report found that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) was "lulled into a false sense of security" and that "intelligence that indicated a real and growing threat leading up to 9/ll did not stimulate significant increases in security procedures."

"It is troubling that the FAA did not act on the dozens of intelligence reports that warned about possible terrorist attacks on airplanes. What is worse, however, is that today our airlines are not much safer than they were on 9/11. Weapons continue to get on planes. Cargo carried beneath passengers' feet is not fully screened. The President's budget released earlier this week does not provide what is necessary to correct these security gaps," Thompson said.
